

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:

Thomas W. DUBENSKY, Jr. et al.

Confirmation No.: 8471

Application No.: 10/773,618

Art Unit: 1645

Filed: February 6, 2004

Examiner: J. Graser

For: MODIFIED FREE-LIVING MICROBES,  
VACCINE COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS  
OF USE THEREOF

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**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.114**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This response accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Amendments and remarks presented herein are responsive to the final Office Action dated October 15, 2007 (Paper No. 20071006), for which a response was due on January 15, 2008. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a three month extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to April 15, 2008. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Entry of the amendment and reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.